

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION VIII

999 18th STREET - SUITE 500 DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2405

Ref: 8HWM-FF

DEC 3 1991

Mr. Frazer Lockhart U.S. Department of Energy Rocky Flats Office P.O. Box 928 Golden, CO 80402-0928

RE: Background Geochemical

Characterization Report

Dear Mr. Lockhart:

EPA received the Department of Energy's (DOE) proposal for a revised submittal schedule for the Background Geochemical Characterization Work Plan and Report (91-DOE-9564). As a point of clarification, our comments of September 10, 1991 concern the 1989 Background Geochemical Characterization Report, not the workplan. The current submittal date for the 1990 Background Geochemical Characterization Report is December 21, 1990.

A meeting was held on November 27, 1991 between representatives of DOE, EPA, and the Colorado Department of Health (CDH) to discuss DOE's proposal. We understand that DOE will continue to work with EPA and CDH to come to a consensus on the required changes to the background program. Because these discussions are ongoing, EPA grants the extension of the submittal date for both the workplan and the 1990 report. The new submittal date for the workplan is February 28, 1992. The new submittal date for the report will be determined after the necessary revisions have been agreed on.

If you wish to discuss the extension or any of our comments, please contact Bonnie Lavelle (303) 294-1067.

Sincerely,

Martin Hestmark, Manager Rocky Flats Project

Markin Herlmans

cc: Brent Lewis, DOE
Erich Evered, EG&G
Ralph Lindberg, EG&G
Harlen Ainscough, CDH
Gary Baughman, CDH
Barbara Barry, CDH/RFPU